

The incumbent performs a limited number of routine, readily understood duties in a field, greenhouse, and/or laboratory environment. Assigned duties will help to develop the incumbent's skills. The incumbent performs the following or similar type duties.

A. Duties:

-assists in the conduct of various field studies. This includes staking and preparing plots; planting crops; caring for plants; recording simple data for later tabulation; maintaining the work area; processing soil or other samples; preparing tools and equipment for use in connection with studies.

-assists in the conduct of activities associated with the rearing of insect colonies. This includes investing diet with newly hatched insects; transferring insects to fresh diet; harvesting egg masses; cleaning the laboratory work area and equipment; preparing insect diets; preparing labels; keeping simple data; maintaining file records and data work sheets; observing and reporting on obvious things such as insect mortality; contaminated diets; operating laboratory equipment such as balances, blenders, homogenizers and volumetric equipment.

B. Factors:

1. Knowledge Required by the Position:

- knowledge or familiarity with procedures and operations used.
- knowledge of simple, repetitive tasks in biological or agricultural work.
- skill to operate simple tools and equipment.

2. Supervisory Controls:

-supervisor provides detailed instructions relating to methods and procedures to be followed. Assignments are designed to provide experience and practice in performing a limited number of specific tasks.

-work is performed as directed. Deviations from established procedures are cleared with supervisor.

-work is performed under close supervision. Work is reviewed for accuracy, completeness, and compliance to instructions while in progress and upon completion.

3. Guidelines:

Detailed instructions, either written or oral, are provided for all work. Incumbent must use judgment in seeking and locating guidelines.

4. Complexity:

The job consists of a limited number of related simple tasks. The duties require the performance of a number of sequential tasks which require various choices of operation and/or the use of tools. The operations are standard in that they are well defined.

5. Scope and Effect:

The purpose of the work is to assist higher graded technicians by doing simple, routine tasks. The work contributes to the effectiveness of the work unit.

6. Personal Contacts:

Contacts are with coworkers.

7. Purpose of Contacts:

Obtain, clarify, or give information.

8. Physical Demands:

The work requires walking over uneven surfaces; recurring bending, crouching, stooping, stretching, reaching, moderately heavy lifting, and above average agility and dexterity may be required.

9. Work Environment:

Work involves moderate risks or discomforts requiring special safety precautions associated with the use of equipment, laboratory glassware, etc. Protective clothing is provided when necessary.